National Environmental Policy Act Draft Environmental Impact Statement



Tribal Treaty Rights and Trust Responsibilities

Tribal resources refers to tribal fishing and hunting and gathering practices, including access to traditional cultural areas associated with a tribe's sovereignty or treaty rights. These resources may include plants, animals, or fish, used for commercial, subsistence (food), and ceremonial purposes.

The study analyzed:

 Potential impacts from construction and operation of the proposed export terminal on tribal resources of concern including fishing sites, fish, vegetation, wildlife, and water.



Fish species such as salmon are an important tribal resource

The study found:

- Fishing Sites Fish s There should be no measurable impact on tribal fishing sites.
- Fish Construction activities would result in underwater noise and turbidity, which could result in behavioral responses or injury to fish. New overwater structures and increased vessel traffic would affect fish with increased shading, noise, and an increased risk of fish stranding.
- Vegetation No culturally significant plant species are known to exist in the project areas for the On-Site Alternative or Off-Site Alternative. Best management practices would reduce coal dust emissions in the project area during operation.
- Wildlife Construction of the proposed export terminal would result in the loss of terrestrial and aquatic habitat. Noise and coal dust could affect terrestrial and aquatic wildlife. The proposed export terminal could affect culturally significant species.
- Water Permits would be required for stormwater and runoff from construction and operations. Vessel traffic could release fuel or hazardous materials as a result of a vessel incident, but federal and state emergency response programs would require cleanup actions.

What could be done to reduce impacts?

Measures to reduce impacts to tribal resources are discussed in the posterboards for biological resources and surface water and water quality. A detailed list of measures can be found in Chapter 8, Minimization and Mitigation Measures, of the Draft EIS.